

Attorney Docket No. 990228

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-40 are pending in the present application. In the above amendments, claims 6, 7, 9, 12, 16, 17, 19, 21, 25, 28, 32, 35, 36, and 38 have been amended; and Claims 1-5, 8, 10-11, 13-15, 18, 20, 22-24, 26-27, 29-31, 33-34, 37 and 39-40 have been canceled. Therefore, after entry of the above amendments, claims 6, 7, 9, 12, 16, 17, 19, 21, 25, 28, 32, 35, 36 and 38 will be still pending in this application. Applicants believe that the present application is now in condition for allowance, which prompt and favorable action is respectfully requested.

*Allowable Subject Matter*

The Examiner stated that claims 6, 7, 9, 12, 16, 17, 19, 21, 25, 28, 32, 35, 36 and 38 would be allowed if written in independent form including all of the limitations of their respective base claim and any intervening claims. Therefore, Applicants have amended these claims accordingly, and request allowance of these claims.

*Rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a)*

The Examiner rejected claims 1, 10, 13, 20, 22, 29, 30, 39-40 as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 4,817,146. ('146 patent) in view of Wildfeuer U.S. Patent No. 6,298,055. Applicants have canceled these claims without prejudice; therefore, this rejection is moot.

*Rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a)*

The Examiner rejected claims 2-5, 8, 11, 14-15, 18, 23-24, 26-27, 31, 33-34, and 37 as unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 4,817,146. ('146 patent) in view of Wildfeuer U.S. Patent No. 6,298,055 and Stevens (TCP/IP, Vol. 1). Applicants have canceled these claims without prejudice; therefore, this rejection is moot.

*Objection to Claim 1*

Claim 1 was objected to for misspelling. Applicants have corrected the misspelling in all the claims.

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Therefore since none of the cited references discloses at least the above limitations,  
Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to withdraw this rejection.

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**CONCLUSION**

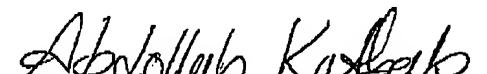
In light of the amendments contained herein, Applicants submit that the application is in condition for allowance, for which early action is requested.

Please charge any fees or overpayments that may be due with this response to Deposit Account No. 17-0026.

Respectfully submitted,

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